

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 00227 101009Z

22-12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 /048 W

----- 047451

R 091714Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 686

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 227

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PROP GH US

SUBJ: PRESS CRITICISM OF U.S. - AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON

COMMISSIONER FOR INFORMATION

1. I USED THE OCCASION OF A COURTESY CALL ON COMMISSIONER FOR INFORMATION BRIGADIER KOTEI JANUARY 8 TO RAISE THE MATTER OF THE INCREASINGLY ACRIMONIOUS PRESS TREATMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

2. WITH EXAMPLES, MANY OF WHICH HAVE BEEN REPORTED INDIVIDUALLY IN OUR TELEGRAMS OR IN USINFO MATERIAL, I CITED A NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH THE PRESS HAS REPORTED OR EDITORIALIZED ON AMERICAN ACTIVITIES AS ADVENTUROUS, IRRESPONSIBLE, WICKED, MALICIOUS AND SENSELESS. I CITED ALSO PERSONAL ATTACKS ON PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER AND THE CONTINUAL BIAS TOWARD THE SOVIET VIEW OF EVENTS IN ANGOLA. ALTHOUGH CHAIRMAN ACHEAMPONG HAD REPEATEDLY ASSURED ME THAT GHANA IS NON-ALIGNED, THIS STANCE WAS NOT DISPLAYED IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND CONTROLLED PRESS. I ASKED RHETORICALLY WHAT VALUE ALL THIS WAS FOR GHANA.

3. KOTEI SAID THAT HE, TOO, HAD NOTED THE ONE-SIDED TREATMENT. HE DID NOT KNOW ANY SPECIFIC REASON, BUT SAID THAT HE HAD A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING WITH EDITORS AND WOULD
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"DIPLOMATICALLY" RAISE QUESTION OF BALANCE AT THAT TIME.

(WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT MEETING ACTUALLY TOOK PLACE.)

4. PRESS OF JANUARY 9 DOES NOT SHOW IMMEDIATE RESULTS OF ANY TALK BY KOTEL, BUT HE DID ASK FOR ONE TO THREE WEEKS TO DEMONSTRATE THE NON-ALIGNED POSTURE HE CLAIMS TO SUPPORT.

5. WE SHALL MONITOR PRESS CAREFULLY AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.
BLACK

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760009-1124
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760173/aaaacmyw.tel
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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To: STATE
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